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U. S. Department of Agriculture

DAHLIAS



KAWEAH—16½ INCHES

ALICE MEUSSDORFFER
Dahlia Gardens

487 HANOVER STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
1934



Awarded on "KAWEAH" in Chicago

In presenting my 1934 Catalog, I am most happy to tell you of being awarded the Highest Award at The Century of Progress, World's Fair International Dahlia Exhibit, in Chicago, on "KAWEAH", the World's Largest Dahlia. It was the Largest Dahlia during the entire week of the Show. 15 1/2 inches. The same bloom was exhibited three days before at the San Leandro Flower Festival, not in competition, being the last day of the show, where it created a sensation, over 16 in. Next day it was sent by Air Express to Chicago, lasting 6 days after being cut. Elsewhere in this catalog you may read of its reception on arriving in Chicago. Kaweah was awarded more First Prizes at the two shows we exhibited at in California. A bush of Kaweah with three large blooms on it, with myself beside it, on the main drive of my home, is shown on the front cover of this catalog.

Another great honor was conferred on one of my New Introductions; Lawrence Tibbett, the great American singer, selected it himself, to bear his name.

The First Prize for the Most Meritorious and Outstanding Exhibit, was again awarded us, as well as the First Prize for the Best Basket of 25 Blooms on my Rosalind Keep; First Prize for the Largest, Perfect Bloom in the Show, on Kaweah, and First on a stupendous basket of twenty Kaweah; a First for the Best Basket of Red Pompons and miniatures, First for Best Basket of Miniatures, a First on Best 1933 Seedling, and the Gold Medal of the New Jersey Dahlia Society for 5 Best New Jersey Dahlias; at the Dahlia Society of California Show.

At the San Leandro Flower Festival, a Basket of 12 enormous Kaweahs received First Prize, 15 inches and over; a glorious pink seedling of mine, 14 inches in diameter, named for Dr. Aurelia Reinhardt, was awarded a First Prize, for Best 2 year Seedling; and a beautiful basket of Pompons received a First Prize; also many other prizes.

This year we used Pompon, Miniatures and some of the medium sized dahlias as borders along the main drive to our house; the effect was beautiful, with the harmonizing colors, and everyone remarked how lovely it was.

We will be very happy if we can assist you in making your garden as lovely as ours was with dahlias. With Best Wishes for 1934,

Sincerely,

ALICE MEUSSDORFFER.

Please Read Before Ordering

Order early—Do not delay ordering until planting time, as many varieties will be sold out.

Terms—Remittance must accompany each order. All orders are delivered carefully packed, by insured Parcel Post, or Express. We pay postage on all retail orders over \$3.00; if less than \$3.00 add 25c for postage.

Dahlia Roots sent to cold climates before April 1st, will be packed against freezing, but sent at Customer's risk. Shipments made about April 10th unless otherwise specified.

We guarantee—All roots true to name and color, and to be in growing condition when received, after which our responsibility ceases. Please notify us at



Awarded on "KAWEAH" in Chicago

once if anything is unsatisfactory, when received or any root does not start to grow after being planted a reasonable time. No replacements, unless roots are returned within six weeks after receiving.

We do not substitute unless requested to do so, but would suggest your naming a second choice.

Abbreviations: New Dahlia Classification—F. D., Formal Decorative; I. D., Informal Decorative; S. C., Semi-Cactus.

Our New Introductions for 1934

LAWRENCE TIBBETT

Eastern and Western Honor Roll Dahlia, 1933



Lawrence Tibbett
and His Dahlia

This immense 12 to 14 inch Formal Decorative of fine form and beautiful coloring was selected by the World Renowned Singer, personally, to bear his name. The color is a warm, glowing, clear peach. The large flowers are held erect on strong, straight stems, on tall strong bushes; prolific bloomers, having excellent keeping qualities. Blooms of it have been taken home after exhibiting it two days at shows, and they kept perfectly three or more days longer. Every one said Mr. Tibbett showed excellent taste in selecting such a lovely dahlia for his name.

Derrill W. Hart says: on the American Home Dahlia Roll of Honor: "It is indeed a tribute to this variety to bear the name of one of Americas favorite singers. At the Dahlia Society of California Show this variety was chosen not only by Mr. Tibbett himself, but, what is of more importance, made an equally favorable impression on the judges, for they chose it as the Best Flower in the Show. That is indeed a great tribute to a Formal Decorative when stacked against the wealth of Dahlia blooms which the Informal Decoratives can show."

Roots—\$25.00 Net. Plants \$12.50 Net.

BELLATRIX

This giant Informal Decorative of Autumn coloring is most attractive. It is a pleasing combination of yellow, buff and rose. The large flowers are held erect on long strong stems on tall bushes. Excellent cut flower, good keeper. Was very attractive in the East, in spite of the storms. One grower and originator of fine dahlias, on seeing it blooming in my garden, expressed great admiration for it. It is illustrated in the picture on the right.

Roots—\$15.00 Net.



Bellatrix



"KAWEAH" As It Looked in
Chicago—15½ Inches

KAWEAH—Winner of First Prize and Sweepstakes at World's Fair in Chicago, 1933

World's Largest Perfect Dahlia 16½ Inches
Eastern and Western Roll of Honor Dahlia

Kaweah not satisfied with the laurels won in California Shows, traveled on to Chicago by Air Express, and there captured the Show at the World's Fair, with its tremendous size, form and great beauty. The Prize Winning bloom was first at the San Leandro Flower Festival on the 4th and last day of the Show, 16 inches and over, and created a sensation. It was not in competition. The show being over, we took Kaweah home. She looked so good the next day, that we decided to send her to Chicago to the World's Fair, where the dahlias were holding Court. It was Tuesday, the fourth day of the Court. "The Court again convened on Tuesday and proceeded with affairs of state until 3 P. M., when a great commotion was set up in the outer chambers of the Throne Room. Upon investigation the court attaches discovered Kaweah had arrived by Air Express from San Francisco, California, attired in royal robes

of fuchsia rose. She was escorted to the throne amid great pomp. There it was discovered that because of her great size (fifteen and one-half inches in diameter) larger facilities would be required. These were promptly provided, and she took her place as queen in the Court of Honor; where she reigned until the end of the Show, Friday night."—(From Souvenir Edition World's Fair Dahlia News).

Kaweah is named for one of our towering mountain peaks in the High Sierras in California, from whose summit one of the most superb views is to be had that I have ever seen.

Kaweah has everything; huge size, splendid long, strong, straight stem, wonderfully rich color, fine form and substance, and splendid keeping qualities. Witness its behavior at the World's Fair, cut 6 days and still in good condition at the end of the Show; after being exhibited in 2 Shows, and traveling 2405 miles to Chicago. The color is a rich fuchsia rose, center of petals shading to a rich velvety cardinal towards the center of the flower, with a reverse of orchids and lavender. First flowers have been 13½ to 16½ inches, with great depth; late flowers 10 to 12 inches.

These tremendous blooms are held perfectly erect on very long, straight stems, 18 to 24 inches to first lateral, requiring very little disbudding, one lateral being sufficient; bushes are about 5 feet tall with blooms on them, in our climate. I have had as many as 4 enormous blooms and even 8 blooming at one time on a bush.

To the right, "KAWEAH"—in San Leandro, same bloom as above, day before shipping to Chicago. 16¼ inches,



Derrill W. Hart of the American Home of New York, wrote me: "Kaweah was even better the second year I grew it, although, goodness knows it was big enough the first year."

Mr. Warwick S. Carpenter says: "Unquestionably one of the Most Sensational Dahlias of recent years, due both to its size, and also to its general character. In a room full of dahlias, it arrests the eye by size, shape and bearing."

For the last three years, it has been the largest dahlia at the Show of the Dahlia Society of California. A stupendous basket of 20 immense Kaweahs, each one 15 inches or more, was awarded First Prize.

H. Carlee, of Haarlem, Holland, says of Kaweah—"The growth and the flower are indeed very beautiful, also the bearing and the shape of the flowers and stem."

Kaweah Roots—**\$7.50**. Plants—**\$4.00** Net. 25c extra for shipping. Plants are shipped from May 15th to June 15th.

MY OTHER DAHLIA ORIGINATIONS

- ***ALICE MEUSSDORFFER**—I. D. This large refined and exquisitely beautiful dahlia is universally admired. The color is a pure, pinkish orchid, with a velvety texture to the petals. Flowers often measure 10 inches and over, and are held perfectly erect on a long wiry, straight stem; the foliage is very attractive, lace-like but leathery, a prolific bloomer. The tall bushes with the masses of blossoms are most attractive in the garden. Dr. Howe of the New York Botanical Gardens, Bronx Park, wrote me of its great beauty, and how universally it was admired. Roots. **\$7.50**.
- ***CAROLINE MEUSSDORFFER**—F. D. This large dahlia of great beauty, depth and fine form, is named for my dear mother. The color is creamy yellow, suffused with a bronzy, salmon pink; stems are long; bushes are tall and always full of flowers. Roots **\$2.50**.
- ***FLAMENCA**—S. C. A large lovely cactus of a rich, warm, velvety peach color, with great depth, on tall bushes; stems are long and strong. Roots **\$1.50**.
- ***GLADYS YOUNG**—I. D. This immense, gloriously beautiful, clear canary yellow dahlia has great depth and fine form; flowers often measuring 10 to 12 inches and 6 inches in depth; stems are long and strong; bushes are tall. Winner of many First Prizes. Roots. **\$5.00**.
- ***INGOMAR**—S. C. This immense 10 to 12 inch rich red, almost scarlet dahlia of fine form and erect carriage on strong, straight, stiff stems, with great depth is very attractive. Bushes medium tall and prolific bloomers. Roots **\$5.00**.
- ***JOHN MEUSSDORFFER**—F. D. Western Roll of Honor Dahlia. Prize Winner. Named for my father, a California Pioneer and a great lover of flowers, who planned the beautiful grounds, in which I raise my dahlias. It is a stunning, large dahlia of a glorious, vivid, brilliant scarlet. Stems are straight and strong; in a warm climate, the bushes grow 5 feet tall, full of large flowers; considered the best red by many. A greatly admired flower in Eastern as well as Western gardens. Roots. **\$1.50**.
- ***KAWEAH**—Winner of First Prize at World's Fair in Chicago for Largest Dahlia in the Show, entire week of the Show. Consistent Prize Winner for Largest Dahlia. Full description on (Page 4). Roots **\$7.50**. Plants **\$4.00**.
- ***LARRY**—Pompon. Golden amber, darker center, long stems. Excellent cut flower.\$ **.50**
- ***LORRAINE**—Pompon. Lovely amber, old rose tips and center; long stems; popular\$ **.75**
- ***MAY DEARBORN SCHWAB**—I. D. Winner of American Home Achievement Medal in 1928. Large beautiful dahlia of chinese violet color. Tall bushes, long stems.\$ **1.50**
- ***MOONBEAM**—F. D. Winner of American Home Achievement Medal, 1931. Honor Roll Dahlia. A large primrose yellow. F. D. of fine form. Erect carriage on a good stem; bushes are tall, with lace-like foliage. Roots **\$5.00**.
- ***REYNOLD**—F. D. A strikingly beautiful dahlia, strawberry red, splashed bright carmine, with cream reverse; long stems, on medium tall bushes. Root **\$2.50**.
- ***ROSALIND KEEP**—F. D. First Prize for Best Basket of 25 blooms in 1932 and 1933, at Dahlia Society of California Show. A stunning display of this exquisitely beautiful dahlia. Blooms are 10 inches and over, clear delicate, pure pink, with white center, and water-lily form. Stems are long and strong, on tall bushes. Excellent keeper, very popular with florists. Roots **\$5.00**

* **California Origin**

ALICE MEUSSDORFFER DAHLIA GARDENS**487 Hanover Street, San Francisco, Calif.**

- ***SNOW WHITE**—F. D. A large white, beautiful dahlia of great depth and substance; having long strong stems, on tall bushes. Greatly admired in the East. **\$1.00.**
- ***STEPHEN MATHER**—I. D. This immense dahlia of unusual coloring and great strength is named for our beloved, deceased Director of National Parks, a great man, who did much for this and future generations, in the conservation of our National Parks. The color of this huge dahlia, 10 inches and over, is a brown old rose, violet reverse. Splendid long strong stems, on tall bushes, with lace-like foliage. Roots **\$5.00**
- ***TEMELPA**—F. D. A fine dahlia, a bi-color; center ox-blood red, shading to carmine and corinthian red, reverse daphne red; also having flowers tipped white. Strong straight stems, blooms on top, tall bush, good keeper. Roots **\$1.00.**
- ***TRISTAN**—F. D. Immense rich, glowing, velvety dark red flower of fine form, is held erect on very strong stiff stem, on sturdy bushes, Attracts attention. **\$1.00.**

SOME OTHER GOOD VARIETIES

- ***AL KORAN**—F. D. Large bright yellow, deepening to amber, long wavy petals\$.50
- ***AMBASSADOR**—St. C. Large soft yellow and salmon, strong stiff stems. My stock is of the original \$50.00 Prize Winning Stock, Perfect centers.\$.75
- ***AMUN RA**—F. D. A stunning copper and orange, scarlet reverse, strong stems.\$.50
- ***DONNA CALIFORNIA**—I. D. A large deep rose pink, suffused with lavender.\$ 2.50
- EDNA FERBER**—S. C. One of the finest. Glistening coral, shading to old gold.\$ 1.00
- ***ELINOR VANDERVEER**—F. D. Prize winning; magnificent rose pink; good keeper.\$.50
- HALVELLA**—F. D. A most charming rose pink, large size, on strong stems.\$.75
- ***ISLAM PATROL**—S. C. A brilliant red dahlia, tipped gold, long stiff stems.\$ 1.00
- JANE COWL**—A great Prize Winner, Color buff, salmon and orange.\$.75
- ***MISSION BELL**—I. D. Pink, with a touch of magenta, large flower, good stems.\$ 1.00
- ***MRS. ELEANOR MARTIN**—I. D. Large flower, color, mulberry, suffused gold.\$ 1.00
- ***NEW GLORY**—S. C. Striking rich ox-blood red, tips of petals, white\$ 1.00
- ***RICHELIEU**—F. D. Large flower of rich, deep velvety red, strong stems.\$ 1.00
- ***SUNSET TROPHY**—F. D. Beautiful primrose yellow, of immense size and fine form; having full centers, long strong stems; prolific bloomer. Prize Winner.\$ 5.00
- ***SNOW BALL**—Ball. Pure White show dahlia very fine.\$ 1.00
- WILLIAM HOGAN**—F. D. Bi-color. Garnet red, heavily tipped white; good stem.\$ 1.00

COLLARETTE DAHLIAS

- HERALD**—Large rosy pink, white collar.\$.50
- GEANT DE LYON**—Large velvety maroon, with a long white collar.\$.50

MINIATURE DAHLIAS

- LITTLE JEWEL**—Dec. Clear delicate pink. One of the daintiest.\$.35
- CORONNE**—Dec. Beautiful white Miniature, resembling a gardenia.\$ 1.00
- DAYBREAK**—Dec. Golden Apricot.\$.50
- ELIZABETH PAPE**—Cac. Rosy salmon pink.\$.50
- LADY MARY HOPE**—Dec. Amber and orange.\$. 75
- MT. WHITNEY SUNSET**—Dec. (1932 Honor Roll) Amber Yellow, Jasper red markings on each petal. Very beautiful; long stems.\$ 1.50
- NORA BELL**—Dec. Scarlet flame, yellow base.\$.50

POMPON DAHLIAS

- ***BANTAM**—Best red for cutting, small perfect form; extra long stems.\$.35
- ***BOSSY**—Light phlox purple, darker center, long stems.\$.50
- DAISY**—Salmon rose, long stems, very popular.\$.50
- DARKEST OF ALL**—Maroon, almost black.\$.50
- DEEDEE**—A perfectly formed, bluish lavender, dainty and small.\$.50

* California Origin

GIRLIE—Lilac pink, long stems, good for cutting.	\$.35
*HELEN ANITA—Small lavender, white center, very pretty, long stems.	\$.35
IDEAL—Pure yellow, long stems, good for cutting.	\$.35
JOHNNY—Very dark red, small and most perfect.	\$.35
*LARRY—Golden amber, darker center, long stems.	\$.50
LILIAS or LILAC—Yellow ground, heavily suffused with pink.	\$.50
LITTLE BEESWING—Golden yellow, tipped cherry, fine form.	\$.50
*LITTLE DAVID—Deep burnt orange, perfect form, good bloomer.	\$.25
*LORRAINE—Lovely amber with old rose tips and center, long stems, prolific bloomer.	\$.75
LYDIA—Delicate pinkish orchid.	\$.50
MARIETTA—Deep rosy crimson.	\$.50
NELLIE FRASER—Light ground, edged and tipped with rose.	\$.35
REGULUS—Cerise purple, small perfect form.	\$.25
ROSEA—Charming variety of bluish lilac; small and prolific bloomer.	\$.50
SUNSET—Clear orange.	\$.35
TOMMY KEITH—Crimson, tipped white.	\$.35
YELLOW GEM—Pure yellow, excellent for cutting.	\$.25

DAHLIA COLLECTIONS *Net.*

No. 1—Kaweah, \$7.50; Alice Meussdorffer, \$7.50; Gladys Young, \$5.00	\$17.50
No. 2—Alice Meussdorffer, \$7.50; Rosalind Keep, \$5.00; G. Young, \$5.00.	\$15.00
No. 3.—Sunset Trophy, \$5.00; Donna California, \$2.50; New Glory, \$1.00; Jane Cowl, \$.75; Richelieu, \$1.00; May Dearborn Schwab, \$1.50; Elinor Vanderveer, \$.50.	\$10.00
No. 4—Caroline Meussdorffer, \$2.50; John Meussdorffer, \$1.50; Snow White, \$1.00; Wm. Hogan, \$1.00; Ambassador, \$.75; Elinor Vanderveer, \$.50.	\$ 5.00

* California Origin



Caroline Meussdorffer



12 FIRST PRIZES WON IN 1933

First Prize and Sweepstakes at The Century of Progress World's Fair Dahlia Show in Chicago on "Kawah" "

Gold Medal of New Jersey Dahlia Society for Best Five Dahlias of New Jersey Origin

First Prize for Most Meritorious and Outstanding Display at the Dahlia Society of California Show.

First Prize for the **Largest, Perfect Dahlia** in the Show. (**Kawah**)

First Prize—Best Basket of 25 or more Blooms of 1 Variety. (**Rosalind Keep**).

First Prize—Best Basket of 15 Blooms or more, 1 Variety. (**Kawah**)

First Prize—Best Basket of Red Pompons and Miniatures. (**Bantam**).

First Prize—Best Basket Miniatures. (**Luana**)

First Prize for Best 1933 Seedling

KAWAH—16½ Inches

First Prize at San Leandro Flower Festival on Best Basket of 12 of 1 Variety. (**Kawah**) each bloom 15 inches and over.

First Prize Best 2 Year Seedling. (Dr. Aurelia Reinhardt)

First Prize—Best Basket Pompon Dahlias, Helen Anita, Deedee, Rosea, Lydia)



Member of the National Association of Commercial Dahlia Growers.

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